Fact Sheet

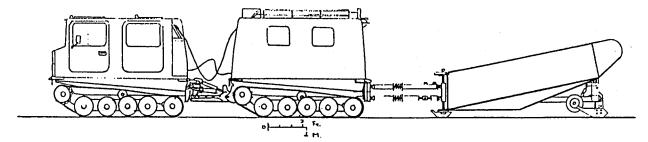
SUSV-TOWED SNOWPLOW

PROBLEM

The U.S. Army's light forces have limited snow removal capabilities. Therefore, many military support vehicles have limited usefulness in operations during which a snow cover is present. Because many roads and trails will not have been kept open prior to and during hostilities, truck-mounted snow-plows (if available) would not be effective. In many instances, heavy tracked vehicles—which are not available to light forces—are required to move deep snow. Light forces have been equipped with a large number of tracked, over-snow vehicles known as SUSVs (Small Unit Support Vehicles). Over-snow vehicles can be equipped with front-mounted plow blades, but to do so, the SUSV would require the addition of extensive hydraulically controlled equip-ment.

SOLUTION

CRREL engineers developed a snowplow towed by the SUSV with minimal changes to the SUSV itself. The plow attaches to the SUSV's pintle hook mounting bracket via a unique four-bar parallel linkage. This linkage controls the attack angle of the plow. The plow has been successfully demonstrated at Forts Wainwright and Greely, Alaska.



STATUS

A videotape and final report on this project have been completed. An Operational Needs Statement for the towed snowplow, prepared by the 6th Infantry Division (Light) and forwarded through channels to DA, has been approved. Design drawings have been forwarded to the Mobility Technology Center–Belvoir (MTCB) (formerly Belvoir Research, Development, and Engineering Center [BRDEC]) for review and finalization. A prototype model is being built by the Tank-Automotive Command (TACOM), Detroit, Michigan, and the responsibility for funding has been assumed by TACOM.

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